### 2019 Legislative Priorities

**MCAP Heads into 2019 with fresh legislative priorities!**

- **Inclusion in Maryland FY20 Operating Budget**

  The Maryland Community Action Partnership is requesting a $950,000 appropriation be included in the FY20 budget for MCAP. The allocation would be used to assist each community action agency with enhancing data management and management information systems, pursuing technical assistance opportunities related to program/service delivery and strategic planning, and supporting staff who are directly linked to the 2-Generation efforts.

- **Strengthening the Community Action Network**

  The Maryland Community Action Partnership seeks to strengthen the Community Action Network by securing funding that will allow for the implementation of the 2 Generation service model. MCAP also supports workforce development, which provides an opportunity for a better quality of life for low income families.

- **Improving Access to Early Education and Childcare**

  The Maryland Community Action Partnership will continue to monitor for legislation related to the Kirwan Commission recommendations, expanding the Headstart program and other early childhood education programs, and childcare subsidies.

- **Reducing barriers for vulnerable populations through the continuance of Non-Emergency Medical Transportation**

  Understanding that the lack of transportation is a much greater barrier to care for Medicaid enrollees than it is for enrollees in private insurance, the Maryland Community Action Partnership supports efforts to continue to provide non-emergency medical transportation to Medicaid recipients who would be otherwise negatively affected by a waiver of this benefit.

- **Increasing Affordable Housing**

  The Maryland Community Action Partnerships supports efforts to increase access to quality affordable housing, to include earned income tax credits, the establishment of Affordable Housing Coalitions, and funding to assist with down payments and housing counseling and support services.